Please amend the application as follows:

<u>In the Claims</u>

Claims 1, 5, 7 and 9 have been amended and are presented below in amended form, and new Claims 23 and 24 have been added. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(1)(ii), amendments to the claims are indicated in the attached "Marked-Up Version of Amendments" (pages i and ii).

1.   (Amended) A polypeptide having the ability to bind CEA comprising a CEA binding loop having the amino acid sequence Cys-X_4-X_5-X_6-X_7-X_8-X_9-X_{10}-X_{11}-Cys (SEQ ID NO:3), wherein

X_4 is Asn, Glu, or Met;

X_5 is Asn, Leu, Met or Phe;

X_6 is Asp, Gly, Ile, Lys, Phe or Thr;

X_7 is Ala, Gln, Gly, Lys or Thr;

X_8 is Arg, Asn, Asp, Glu or Gly;

X_9 is Gln, Gly or Leu;

X_{10} is Ala, Trp or Tyr;

X_{11} is Ala, Gly, His, Phe, Thr or Val.

5.   (Amended) A polypeptide according to Claim 3, comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of:

Asn-Trp-Val-Cys-Asn-Leu-Phe-Lys-Asn-Gln-Trp-Phe-Cys-Asn-Ser-Tyr (SEQ ID NO:4),

Asp-Trp-Val-Cys-Glu-Asn-Lys-Lys-Asp-Gln-Trp-Thr-Cys-Asn-Leu-Leu (SEQ ID NO:5),

Asn-Trp-Asp-Cys-Met-Phe-Gly-Ala-Glu-Gly-Trp-Ala-Cys-Ser-Pro-Trp (SEQ ID NO:6);

Asn-Trp-Phe-Cys-Glu-Met-Ile-Gly-Arg-Gln-Trp-Gly-Cys-Val-Pro-Ser (SEQ ID NO:8);

and

Asp-Trp-Val-Cys-Asn-Phe-Asp-Gln-Gly-Leu-Ala-His-Cys-Phe-Pro-Ser (SEQ ID NO:9).

7. (Amended) A polypeptide according to Claim 6, comprising an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NO:37, SEQ ID NO:38, SEQ ID NO:39, SEQ ID NO:40, SEQ ID NO:41, SEQ ID NO:42, SEQ ID NO:43, SEQ ID NO:44, SEQ ID NO:45, SEQ ID NO:46, SEQ ID NO:47, SEQ ID NO:48, SEQ ID NO:49, SEQ ID NO:50, SEQ ID NO:51, SEQ ID NO:52, SEQ ID NO:53, SEQ ID NO:54, SEQ ID NO:55, SEQ ID NO:56, SEQ ID NO:57, SEQ ID NO:58, SEQ ID NO:59, SEQ ID NO:60, SEQ ID NO:61, SEQ ID NO:62, SEQ ID NO:63, SEQ ID NO:64, SEQ ID NO:65, SEQ ID NO:66, SEQ ID NO:67, SEQ ID NO:68, SEQ ID NO:69, SEQ ID NO:70, SEQ ID NO:71, SEQ ID NO:72, SEQ ID NO:73, SEQ ID NO:74, SEQ ID NO:75, SEQ ID NO:76, SEQ ID NO:77, SEQ ID NO:78, SEQ ID NO:79, SEQ ID NO:80, SEQ ID NO:81, SEQ ID NO:82, SEQ ID NO:83, SEQ ID NO:84, SEQ ID NO:85, SEQ ID NO:86, SEQ ID NO:87, SEQ ID NO:88, SEQ ID NO:89, SEQ ID NO:90, SEQ ID NO:91, SEQ ID NO:92, SEQ ID NO:93, SEQ ID NO:94, SEQ ID NO:95, SEQ ID NO:96, SEQ ID NO:97, SEQ ID NO:98, SEQ ID NO:99, SEQ ID NO:100, SEQ ID NO:101, SEQ ID NO:102, SEQ ID NO:103, SEQ ID NO:104, SEQ ID NO:105, SEQ ID NO:106 and SEQ ID NO:107.

9. (Amended) A polypeptide according to Claim 1, 3 or 6, wherein said polypeptide has a K_d for CEA which is less than 7 μM.

23. (New) A polypeptide having the ability to bind CEA comprising a CEA binding loop having the amino acid sequence Asp-Trp-Val-Cys-Glu-Lys-Thr-Thr-Gly-Gly-Tyr-Val-Cys-Gln-Pro-Leu (SEQ ID NO:7).

24. (New) A polypeptide having the ability to bind CEA comprising a CEA binding loop having the amino acid sequence Asn-Trp-Val-Cys-Asn-Leu-Phe-Lys-Asn-Gln-Trp-Phe-Cys-Asn-Ser-Tyr (SEQ ID NO:4).